

2008-2009

Cardington-Lincoln Local
Digital Academy
Annual Report

“I cannot change yesterday. I can only make the most of today, and look with hope toward tomorrow.” *Anonymous*

This quote represents a key philosophy of the Cardington-Lincoln Local Digital Academy staff. We cannot change the past for our students. Through education, we can change their future! By individualizing each K-12 student’s educational plan, students are able to work at their specific instructional level and experience academic growth at the same time. The digital environment provides students with an opportunity for success. It gives them their burst of “hope.” Through diligence and hard work, students make their dreams their reality.

The goal of the Cardington-Lincoln Local Digital Academy is to offer the highest quality educational alternative program to all students. We strive to do what is in the individual student’s best interest. With our fourth full year completed, we continue to re-evaluate our curriculum and our mode of delivery to ensure that we are providing our students with the best option possible.

Cardington Digital strives to take students at their current academic levels, build upon their foundation, and increase achievement at developmentally appropriate rates and levels. We do this with the assistance of technology, quality curriculum and competent instructors. Our ultimate goal is to provide students with applicable skills that will allow them to be lifelong learners and intelligent decision-makers of the 21st century.

Effective education is a cooperative venture between the student, teachers, support staff, and the primary caregivers. Teamwork between these important people raises expectations, improves accountability and ultimately raises student achievement. Cardington-Lincoln Local Digital Academy is proud to be a member of this vital team and takes its job very seriously.

I want to thank you for your interest in Cardington-Lincoln Local Digital Academy. If you should have any questions or concerns regarding this annual report or our academy, please contact me. I can be reached by email at Jennifer.zierden@cardingtonschools.org or by phone at 419-864-4566.

My goal is to provide ‘hope’ for all the tomorrows of every Cardington-Lincoln Digital Academy student. Education is the vehicle that can and will change their lives.

Sincerely,

Jennifer R. Zierden
Director
Cardington-Lincoln Local Digital Academy

Mission Statement

The Cardington-Lincoln Local Digital Academy is dedicated to providing student-centered service in a professional and compassionate manner utilizing highly trained and committed staff to individualize educational strategies that will empower each student to succeed.

Our School

Cardington-Lincoln Local Digital Academy is a conversion community school in the state of Ohio under the umbrella of the Cardington-Lincoln Local Schools located at 121 Nichols Street Annex, Cardington, Ohio 43315. Enrollment is open to students in grades K-12 who reside in the Cardington-Lincoln Local School district or contiguous districts. We serve a general population of students and home-school children from within the Cardington-Lincoln Local School district boundaries and adjoining districts.

CLLDA offers students a viable educational option designed to ensure that students' individual educational needs can be met. We use the latest distance learning technology and various curriculum sources to deliver instruction to students in their homes, group learning environments and tutoring labs. Our focus is meeting the ever-changing needs of our students to ensure their success.

Cardington-Lincoln Local Schools opened its doors on November 1, 2004. The 2008-09 school year was our fourth full year of operation. This past year, CLLDA partnered with Lincoln Interactive and Tri-Rivers Educational Computer Association to offer our students quality standards based curriculum options.

The State of Ohio standards are used as the platform by which our curriculum is aligned, assessed and organized. Students work towards achieving these standards, however not all students acquire skills and knowledge at the same rate. Intervention strategies are in place to identify students who are not progressing adequately and enrichment opportunities will be available to those students progressing at an accelerated pace.

The focus of the Cardington-Lincoln Local Digital Academy is and should always be our students. We are working very hard to meet the individual needs of our students and to give them the tools they will need to survive and thrive in the society of this 21st century. Students are provided with quality standards-based curriculum and offered an individualized progress model allowing them to work at their specific instructional level while experiencing academic growth.

At CLLDA we strive to encourage our young people to be their best and do their best, always. Cardington-Lincoln Local Digital Academy is not a place for students to hide. Accountability and high expectations are paramount to our success.

During the 2008-09 school year, students were able to attend a tutoring lab during the day. This was not a required component of the instructional day but was an additional resource put in place to help our students achieve their goals. Students were able to attend their online school environment from home as well as in a lab setting. Certified teachers and tutors were provided to monitor the lab and help students with technology and academic issues.

The addition of the day-lab created not only a quiet and structured location in which to work, but allowed students the opportunity to participate in face-to-face tutoring as well as online tutoring. The lab setting enabled students to foster personal relationships and socialize appropriately with their teachers and peers. Personalization of the on-line environment was fostered by the lab setting. Students who routinely attended lab tended to be more successful and progressed appropriately in their online courses.

Enrollment Data

Throughout the course of the 2008-09 school year, CLLDA served 73 students. We began our 2008-09 school year with 27 students and ended our year with 39 students. Our average enrollment for the 2008-09 school year was 41.6 students.

Enrollment for FY09 consisted of students who were home-schooled, home bound for health reasons, socially unable to thrive in the traditional school environment, students seeking credit recovery, and students who desired the flexibility that the digital environment could provide. Students ranged from kindergarten through twelfth grade with 89% of our students in grades 7-12.

Our overall attendance rate for 2008-09 was 97.2%. We had a 75% of our students who enrolled in our program continued to be enrolled at the end of the 2007-08 school year. 36% of our students returned for the following school year. This retention rate can be attributed to enforcing standards and holding students accountable as well as a transient population.

CLLDA is not a place to hide. It is a stepping-stone towards the future. If the digital environment is not in the best interest of our students, a more appropriate educational environment is recommended.

CLLDA 2008-09 Enrollment Data

Gender	
Male	64.4%
Female	35.6%
Ethnicity	
White	98.6%
Non-White	1.4%
Grades Served	
K-5 Elementary	9.6%
6 -8 Middle School	15.1%
9-12 High School	75.3%
Special Services	
Special Education (SN)	28.8%
Regular Education	71.2%
Disadvantaged	26.0%

Section One- Academic Program

Technology has forever changed the educational model from instructional to that of a learning model. Digital technologies are creating a world of learner choices that make experience and information available to us today in many modes. Cardington-Lincoln Local Digital Academy believes that students should not succeed in spite of their school systems but rather that quality curriculum and delivery of instruction should provide the students with the tools necessary to achieve their goals. Students should not be held back in their course of study. On-line learning allows students to progress at their own pace and provides opportunities for individual acceleration that are difficult to obtain in the traditional brick and mortar school environment. Online education helps students to be life-long learners.

Cardington-Lincoln Local Digital Academy contracts with the Tri-Rivers Educational Computer Association (TRECA), an established, experienced computer network consortium and with TRECA Digital Academy, and Lincoln Interactive to provide the delivery of our online curriculum and instruction services. All teachers working with CLLDA students in their online environments are certified or licensed in their area of instruction.

CLLDA is very proud to have had 10 seniors graduate during the 2008-2009 school year.

Educational Performance Indicators

Attendance in the distance-learning environment continues to be refined. Students must have 920 hours of instruction time yearly. Due to the fact that our students work online, the fit between the number of standards and the instructional hours is straightforward. The standards have been aligned to the student's online lessons. As students progress through the curriculum, they meet the hourly attendance requirement through regular attendance, participation in chats and discussions, completion of assignments and ongoing assessments by their teachers.

Students had the opportunity to "attend" school seven days a week, twenty-four hours a day for 180 days per year. Students were considered "attending" if they contacted their teachers in a meaningful way, completed assignments, participated in classroom related discussions, and accessed their classroom environment. Cardington-Lincoln Local Digital Academy's attendance rate for 2008-09 was 97.2%.

During the 2008-09 school year, Cardington-Lincoln Local Digital Academy did not have enough students in any grade level to meet the minimum number needed for the Local Report Card rating. In the 2008-09 school year, we did have 100% of our students participate in the state-mandated testing. CLLDA met our Annual Yearly Progress goal for the second year in a row. Ten students graduated from the Cardington-Lincoln Local Digital Academy during the 2008-09 school year.

Our local report card is available online at www.ode.state.oh.us.

2009 Performance Index Summary Report for Cardington Lincoln Local Digital Academy

IRN:	151076	District:	Cardington-Lincoln Local
School Type:	High School	County:	Morrow
Address:	121 Nichols St	ITC:	TRECA
	Cardington, OH 43315-1121	Feeder School:	Not Specified

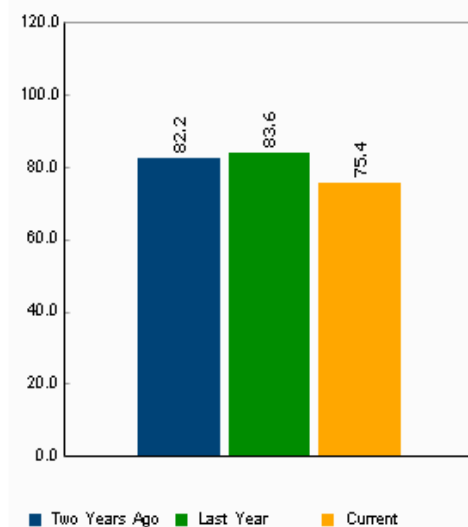
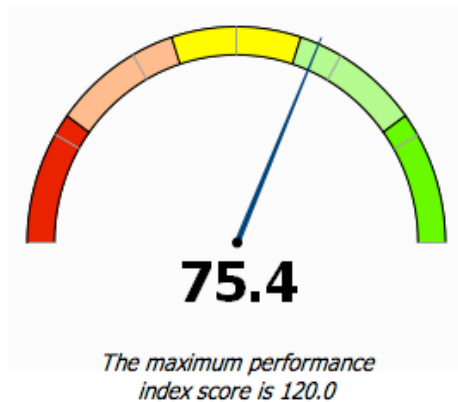
2009 Performance Index Calculation

	Test Count by Level	Count of All Tests	Pct	Weight	Points
Untested	0 /	39	$\times 100 = 0.0$	$\times 0.0 =$	0.0
Limited	7 /	39	$\times 100 = 17.9$	$\times 0.3 =$	5.4
Basic	12 /	39	$\times 100 = 30.8$	$\times 0.6 =$	18.5
Proficient	19 /	39	$\times 100 = 48.7$	$\times 1.0 =$	48.7
Accelerated	1 /	39	$\times 100 = 2.6$	$\times 1.1 =$	2.8
Advanced	0 /	39	$\times 100 = 0.0$	$\times 1.2 =$	0.0

[Analyze...](#)

75.4

Three-Year Trend



Financial Reporting

Public charter schools in Ohio are funded through Ohio's per pupil foundation program.

The following financial information reflects the revenue and expenditures for the Cardington-Lincoln Local Digital Academy for fiscal year 2009.

FY09 Revenue

General	\$262,908.00
IDEA Part B Grants	\$7,736.47
Title I	\$3,482.22
Title V	\$53.74
Drug Free School Grant	\$125.99
Teacher Quality	\$279.52
Miscellaneous Federal Grants	\$22,117.61
Management Information System	\$3,000.00
Total FY09 Revenue	\$299,703.55

Expenditures 2008-2009

General	\$255,560.48
Management Information System	\$3,000.00
IDEA Part B Grant	\$7,736.47
Title I	\$3,482.22
Miscellaneous Federal Grant	\$22,085.00
FY09 Actual Expenditures	\$291,864.17

State Foundation payments have become the most significant source of revenue for Cardington-Lincoln Local Digital Academy (CLLDA). These payments are directly related to the enrollment figures for the school. Other significant sources of revenue for the Academy in FY09 were federal IDEA-B funds, which helped to serve the school's special education population, and federal REAP grant funds which helped with our innovative tutoring program in the lab.

Expenditures for CLLDA continue to be primarily for purchased services. These services include instructional costs purchased from TRECA Digital Academy and Lincoln Interactive.

The released audit report can be viewed by going to the Auditor's online report search database at <http://auditsearch.auditor.state.oh.us/RPIE/>.

Planning for the Future

While the Cardington-Lincoln Local Digital Academy continues to improve, we are not satisfied with our current level of success. The leadership team will continue the ongoing study of curricular and instructional issues.

CLLDA's director and staff are committed to the following for the 2008-09 school year:

1. Continue increasing participation and raising scores on the Ohio Achievement Tests, including meeting AYP.
2. Selecting and implementing the best possible standards-based curriculum.
3. Ensuring accountability for our student via attendance and progress policies.
4. Maintaining high expectations for behavior and achievement
5. Developing a greater sense of community for all our students.
6. Increasing parent and community involvement.
7. Continuing to modify programs, delivery and instruction to increase our student achievement.
8. Continuing to increase contact with students.
9. Increasing student success!